

RESEO Conference | Ueno Gakuen University  
**UNLEARNING MUSIC**



**Presentation Contents:**

- ➔ What is Unlearning Music?
- ➔ Why we started?
- ➔ Logic Model: How we build and evaluate ourselves.
- ➔ What we do: 3 questions + 6 Strands.
- ➔ Next Challenge

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**WHAT IS "UNLEARNING MUSIC"?**

**ULM as a learning platform for arts professionals to elevate**

Unlearning Music (ULM) is not just an ordinary training programme, but It is a learning platform, and network for arts professionals, music education practitioners, musicians, academics, students and everyone who would like to make an impact on the current Classical Music sector.

ULM questions what we do, what we think we knew, and what is our expertise as arts professionals. We reflect ourselves through workshops and dialogues with the leading professionals from various arts genres. By doing so, we are able to design the new innovative practice, and explore how we make it beyond educational programmes.

ULM is here to support and encourage the practitioners, but also ULM wishes to be a seed to unsettle them doubting the obviousness and breaking the bias that we're embedded through our past education, our experiences. This is why it is called



“Unlearning Music”. We deliberately forget our habitus and make our unconscious to conscious. Unlearning Music is a way to elevate ourselves.

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## **WHY WE STARTED?**

### **Not many training opportunities for practitioners: We aim to maintain the learning environment.**

Ueno Gakuen University has been one of the leading institutions in Japan to train music facilitators since 2009. Together with a British practitioners Michael Spencer, we devised an intensive training programmes and had over 170 young musicians and administrators by the Summer 2016.

However once we sent off those into the real working fields, they started coming back very specific but practical questions and difficulties. This is how we started a ULM project.

It is important to train and prepare the new generation but also it is vital to encourage our colleagues needed the most support and desperate to have further learning opportunities. Because we are a music college, we maximise our resources as a platform to maintain the current learning environment providing certain programmes, and developing the learning contents.

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## **LOGIC MODEL**

### **Be a long term seed in the industry.**

The challenge of any art project is how to make an impact, possibly sustainable impact. ULM employs the logic model based on “Theory Change”. Our aimed social impact is to change the Japanese Classical music scene, and we have 2 perspectives as working targets: ULM as one of practitioners, ULM as an academic institution.

The purpose of applying this Logic Model is it can be utilised as both strategy planning and formative validation tool. It uneasy to maintain the project when any unexpected problem or change occur.

	[Practical] Improve the quality of our practice	[Academic] Shift of Art Universities
Impact	Various Practice Structure Shifting	Projecting the new model of music institution
Outcome	Change in mindset Flexible and Dynamic thinking	<b>Social:</b> New Curriculum, learning opportunities <b>Academic:</b> New findings
Activities	Sharing awareness Activating dialogues Gaining perspectives	Current curriculum validation Applied research/ Case studies Collecting evidence
Engagement	Practitioners, Music Sector Art Communities	Researchers / Academics Education authorities

**WHAT WE DO: 3 QUESTIONS + 6 STRANDS**



**What we believe:**

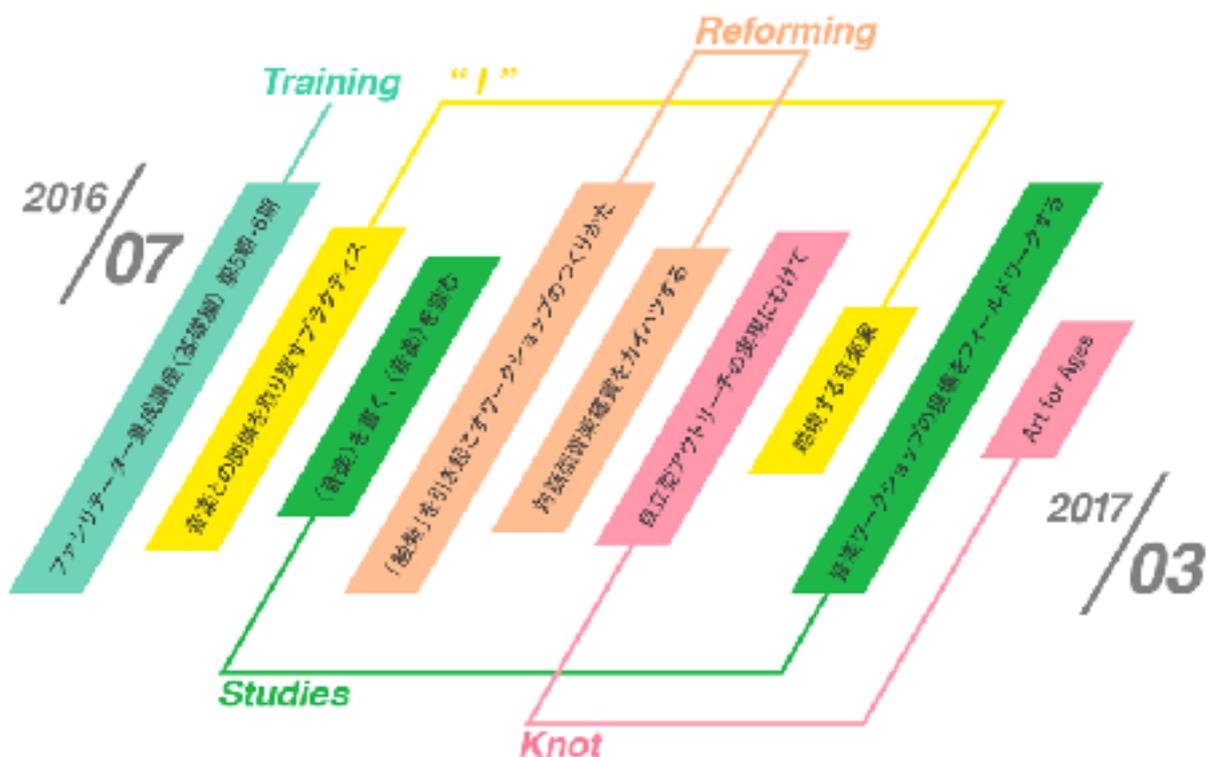
- The ideal world is where we do not need “educational programmes”
- We seek our own uniqueness as a music college.
- We are not afraid to keep asking questions even there is no answer.

### ULM's 3 Questions

- ➔ What makes Classical Music so unique? - Why Classical Music?
- ➔ What do we aspire through our practice?
- ➔ How we can define our expertise as arts education practitioners?

### ULM 2016 Objectives

1. **Learn from the pioneers:** Learn from the leading practitioners their philosophy, methods and own practice, sharing the insights.
2. **New People, New Genres:** Introduce new styles of cross-genre practice, and provide practical workshops and enhance discussion.
3. **Society and Public:** Define our mission and ourselves as public resources.
4. **Activating Dialogues:** Stimulate the communication among practitioners and stir the network as a bridge.
5. **Documentation:** Archive our activities and discussions, questions, in order to draw the subtleties of what we do in our field. Share our journey on the website.
6. **Collaboration and Intellectual Production:** Open our doors to practitioners to empower, and establish an active learning platform. Provide the evidence and new findings based on research.



## LOOKING AT THE FUTURE: NEXT CHALLENGE

### **How we embedded the questions - A key to make longer impact**

ULM is going to be a publication, raising awareness, lobbying the importance of this field and outline our current challenges.

### **Need a validation method - Quantitative and Qualitative**

A evaluation is not a tool to criticize ourselves, but it is a positive learning tool for every practitioners. Solid validation method is needed to be considered so as research professionals. We can learn from and collaborate with social science expertise.